



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT 2023

WITHIN THE:

“Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa”

Programme Objectives

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is funded by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) as commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to organize support measures for the "Network of Excellence for Land Governance in Africa (NELGA)".

NELGA is a partnership of over 70 leading African universities and research institutions with proven leadership in education, training and research on land governance.

The objectives of NELGA are:

- Enhancing training opportunities and curricula on land governance in Africa;
- Promoting demand driven research on land policy;
- Connecting scholars and researchers across Africa;
- Creating data and information for monitoring and evaluation on land policy reforms;
- Strengthening policy-research linkages.

DAAD is offering research fellowships for research stays or field studies in Central Africa

Eligible Applicants

We invite staff members, students and young researchers of NELGA partner institutions with a background in land governance or a related field to apply for funding for **NELGA research fellowships**.

Applicants must

- have completed at least a first university degree (undergraduate) at a state or state-recognized institution of higher education;
- be enrolled or a staff member at one of the NELGA partner universities or associated institutions;
- return to their studies/duty station at the end of the fellowship;
- be nationals of an African country;
- be granted leave of absence by their home institution for conducting a field study.

Female applicants and candidates from less privileged regions or groups are especially encouraged to apply.

Eligible Fields

Applicants must have a background in land governance/ land management or a related field (e.g. land administration, land economics, urban and regional planning, geomatics).

Applications must cover the following key areas:

- Land conflict prevention
- Land conflict analysis
- Land conflict resolution

Special consideration will be given to proposals that address topics that support NELGA's research initiative on "Sustainable Management of Cross-Border Agropastoralist Conflicts in Central Africa". A factsheet on the research initiative accompanies this announcement.

Place of Tenure

The fellowships are tenable in the field, at a state or state-recognized institution of higher education or a non-university research institute in Central Africa. The fellowship does not provide financial support to research at the applicant's home institution.

Duration

The fellowships are tenable for a period of one up to three months, depending on the project in questions and the applicant's timetable. Only full months are fundable. The fellowship is not renewable.

Value

The fellowship consists of:

- a flat-rate travel allowance: EUR 280 for in-country, EUR 430 for neighbouring countries, EUR 630 for in-region, EUR 980 for out of region;
- a monthly research allowance of EUR 460.

Terms and Conditions

The fellowship does not cover living expenses. One month after the end of the fellowship the fellow must provide a detailed report on the implementation of the research and its findings. The fellowship is not renewable. Funding is only eligible once per year, per topic and per educational stage.

Application Procedure

Applicants will be required to:

1. register online via the DAAD-Portal (if not already registered): <https://portal.daad.de/>
2. apply online under the following link: [Click here](#)

For technical questions regarding the DAAD-Portal, please contact portal@daad.de.

Documents to be submitted

- DAAD application form, duly filled (available in the DAAD-Portal);
- Curriculum Vitae, including list of publications (if applicable);
- detailed description of the research proposal and a description of previous research work (max. 10 pages);
- weekly schedule of planned research work;
- letter confirming supervision by an academic adviser at the host institute, which refers to the applicant's proposal and confirms that the host institute will provide a workplace (not applicable for studies in the field);
- copies of university diplomas/certificates and transcripts of record of all annual academic examinations (incl. explanation of grading system);
- a recent reference from a university teacher which provides information about the applicant's qualifications.

Deadlines

The following deadlines apply:

| Deadline | Start of the fellowship |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 12th October | 1 st of January 2024 |

Selection Criteria

The most important selection criteria are:

- a convincing and well-planned research project;
- academic achievements
- relevance of the proposal to the research topics outlined in the attached factsheet

Any additional documents supporting the academic relevance of the research proposal or providing information about pertinent extracurricular activities of the applicant will also be considered in the assessment. Special consideration will be given to proposals that address the cross-border area and topics outlined in the factsheet accompanying this call. Further consideration will be given to applicants who successfully completed the MOOC on "Land and Conflict" by AUF (Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie) and University of Youndé I.

Contacts

For questions concerning the **application process** please contact

- Ms Hellen Sahlmann (sahlmann@daad.de)

For questions concerning the **NELGA** please contact

- Mr Jean-Eudes Fournial (jean-eudes.fournial@giz.de)



Sustainable management of cross-border agropastoralist conflicts in Central Africa

Cameroon – Chad – Central African Republic

Context

Conflicts between pastoralists and farmers in the tri-national border area between Cameroon, Chad and the Central African Republic are a growing cause for concern. These conflicts are linked in particular to demographic growth, climate change and the scarcity of resources such as land and water. Unfortunately, land tenure policies and customary practices are unable to prevent these conflicts between pastoralist communities and farmers in the area. Against this backdrop, the University of Yaoundé I aims to implement an action research initiative to find sustainable solutions to conflicts between farmers and pastoralists in the border zone. This project, initiated within the framework of the "Network of Excellence for Land Governance in Africa" (NELGA), is fully in line with the sustainable development objectives and national strategies for reducing poverty and improving governance in these three countries.



An analysis of the causes of agropastoral conflicts in the border areas between Cameroon, Chad and CAR has identified 4 main factors:

- **Political**, notably concerning the circulation of small arms in the region, insecurity and the weakness of states;
- **Cultural**, linked to a lack of knowledge of land tenure rules and pastoral specificities;
- **Economic**, with increasing social needs and dwindling natural resources;
- **Environmental**, closely linked to the consequences of climate change and the resulting change in pastoral practices.

Objectives of the project:

The project aims to propose sustainable solutions to reduce cross-border land conflicts between Cameroon, Chad and CAR. It has 4 specific objectives:

- **Strengthen good governance** of pastoral land tenure systems;
- **Prevent and reduce conflict** within agro-pastoral communities;
- Combat the effects of the **environmental crisis** ;
- **Strengthen the resilience** of pastoral and agro-pastoral households.

Expected results:

- Develop a land governance strategy;
- Conceptualize conflict prevention and reduction mechanisms;
- Develop approaches to sustainable management of agricultural and pastoral land;
- Establish ways of strengthening productive capacities, securing income and changing social behavior.

Project intervention area :



The project area extends along the border between Cameroon, CAR and Chad:

- **Cameroon:** Boumba and Ngoko zones (East Region) to the south, Mayo-Rey department (North Region) ;
- **Chad:** from Logone Oriental province in the south, to Lac province in the north ;
- **CAR:** Ouham Pende prefecture in the west, Vakaga prefecture in the east. l'Est.

A number of activities are planned to implement this project, including:

1. The status quo and mapping of resources covered or exploited (water points, pastures, salt land) by a community beyond the borders of its country, and their periods of exploitation.
2. An inventory of all conflicts (typology, frequency and actors involved) in the project implementation area.
3. Mapping of conflicts linked to the exploitation of cross-border agropastoral resources.
4. Identification of traditional conflict prevention and management mechanisms in the project area.
5. Inventory of the various local conventions (by zone)
6. Identification and mapping of the various transhumance corridors existing between the border towns in the project area.
7. Identification of the various strategies developed by local people to ensure peaceful access and manage conflicts arising during cross-border transhumance.

8. Drawing up a directory of traditional and/or current actors and institutions involved in conflict prevention and management in the project area.
9. An inventory of regulatory and institutional instruments (internal organizations, texts, organization charts, etc.) relating to the management of agropastoral conflicts, and of supranational bodies likely to arbitrate, settle or support Central African states in situations of land-related difficulties.
10. Inventory and analysis of existing regulations, institutional arrangements, resources, and opportunities for local land governance and agropastoral conflict prevention.
11. Inventory and analysis of the current level of institutional capacities and gaps in local institutions involved in land governance and agropastoral conflict prevention.

Funding for this research project has not yet been secured. But in the meantime, the University of Yaoundé I is encouraging partners, teachers and students in the NELGA network to take up the research themes identified as priorities in this action research project.



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